

Appendix G

CONSERVATION INITIATIVES FUNDING CRITERIA

P.L. 107-282 of November 6, 2002 amends the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act to include an additional expenditure category, which allows “up to 10 percent of amounts available, to be used for conservation initiatives on Federal Land in Clark and Lincoln Counties, Nevada, administered by the Department of the Interior or the Department of Agriculture.”

“Conservation Initiatives” are federal agency activities which promote conservation on federal lands including planning, implementation, monitoring, environmental impact statements, NEPA compliance and delivery of programs such as, but not limited to, litter and desert dumping clean-up and prevention, natural and cultural resource protection, recreation, habitat restoration, species management, environmental education, volunteerism and site stewardship. Research projects must demonstrate a practical application to management of federal lands in order to be accepted for consideration.

Eligibility

The Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, USDA Forest Service, and Bureau of Reclamation may receive funding for conservation initiatives.

Strategic Goals for Implementation of Conservation Initiatives

1. Results in improved quality of natural and cultural resources and/or management of federal lands.
2. Provide opportunities to involve, inform, and educate the public about the environment and responsible use on federal lands.
3. Enhances partnerships in promotion of cooperative conservation.

Minimum Criteria

- Project is nominated by one of the five federal land management agencies -- the National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, USDA Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Bureau of Reclamation – for federal lands in Clark and Lincoln Counties.

Ranking Criteria

Six criteria will be used by the subgroup to evaluate, score, and rank nominations in this category. The total points available for each criteria is shown to the right of the criteria. The factors used to score the criteria are listed below it with the points available for each factor. The factor scores are cumulative to make up the total points available for each criteria. If a project has the factor, the project will receive the full points available for that factor

1. Results in improved quality of federal lands.	Points = 15
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Factors:

A. Protects cultural and/or natural resources.	7	
B. Rehabilitates or restores cultural and/or natural resources.	6	
C. Remediates risk to environmental health and/or public safety.	2	

2. Results in improved management of federal lands.	Points = 15
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Factors:

A. Improves efficiency and/or reduces overall federal cost in the management of cultural and/or natural resources.	5	
B. Advances knowledge of cultural resources, natural resources and/or ecological systems with a demonstrated practical application.	4	
C. Project products are useful and have a practical application without further funding.	4	
D. Processes and/or results are exportable.	2	

3. Provides opportunities to involve, inform and/or educate the public about the environment and about the management and responsible use of federal lands.	Points = 10
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Factors:

A. Promotes the responsible use of federal lands.	3	
B. Involves the public and/or organizations in implementing management of public lands.	3	
C. Incorporates education about the environment.	2	
D. Incorporates a public information process.	2	

4. Required to sustain a successful necessary SNPLMA conservation initiative.	Points = 10
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5. Promotes cooperative conservation.	Points = 10
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Factors:

A. Involves non-governmental groups, volunteers, or organizations in the development and accomplishment of resource management goals and other activities.	5	
B. Actively involves, and addresses the needs of, more than one governmental agency.	5	

6. Project demonstrates sound project management and quality control measures.	Points = 5
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Factors:

A. Project goals and implementation processes are clear, achievable and demonstrable.	2	
B. Deliverables and implementation plan are clearly articulated. Deliverables are measurable.	1	
C. Project demonstrates sound science and management techniques.	1	
D. Project evaluation processes are identified.	1	

TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS = 65
